

Method and system for integrating online topical data with uniform user interface

Background of invention

The growth of the online world has help bring information on demand in the real world much more accessible than before.

The World Wide Web is now becoming more integrated to the daily activities of data creation, storage, and delivery. It has also evolved to improve data utilization efficiency to more fields than before. For example, one of the advantage of online data is that it can easily be requested, duplicated, transmitted, and displayed, and therefore reaching far greater distances and with faster speed than traditional data usage.

But even with the growth of the web and it's effective potential in the real world, it remain far from being efficiently integrated for optimal performance. That is, there are still no efficient method of offline data request and the subsequent delivery of online data available for all types of media and functioning utilities.

One of the problem with full integration of online and offline data is their differences of format, and their method of presentation. Online data, as intended from the beginning,

serves to present plain textual or graphic displays on compatible browser. It is used mainly as a linear function, where requests for information lead to according responses. Offline data, on the other hand, operates with more non-linear functioning. Unlike the plain display of standard web content, offline media present content rich videos and audio that varies in styling and formats. Therefore, as a result, there are much more needs to request and utilize any available, relevant data from the web.

To better integrate the available data online with the consistent requests for relevant information offline, it is important to find a common interface that will serves as gateway to both worlds. Although there are many methods of performing this task, they remain inefficient on effectively integrating online data with offline request. For example, web addresses are used as simple gateways to online data from any offline interest on given topic. But this slow process provides limited content as result and small utilization of available data from request. Another form of information gateway relies on the use of personal digital assistants, and mobile computers. With the capacity to go online from remote location, these devices serve to access available online data regarding an interesting topic. However, with lack of common format, slow connection speed and disorganized results, these devices remain inefficient as simple

data integrators. Another method to bridge the offline request and online database is the use of interactive links available on media such as televisions, which can lead to direct and more relevant online data. But these multimedia links are limited in terms of offline topic coverage and online data response. Since most of these links are commercially related, and the online data in return utilizes prearranged content, the use of these links did not serve as effective gateway of media and the online resources.

A simple, uniform user interface that focuses on direct online data integration with the different types of information and media in the real world will serves to bring greater efficiency and more utilization of any selected target topic.

Summary of invention

One of the main aspect of this simple, uniform user interface is to recognize that offline data requests revolve around any specific topic, and there are respective online data for that particular topic. By organizing the interface around the focus on individual topics, there are common links for informational requests and deliveries. Therefore, despite the complexity and non-linear nature of both the online world and the real world,

there is a gateway of which it is counter directional in goals for both sides, namely one to request data and another to present data. It is important for the online data to be formatted in style that presents the potential coverage of web database while utilizing the multimedia resources of the display.

The advantages of data request initiated offline derive from its rich variety in available topics at any given situation. On the other hand, with online searches, the perimeters of interests are considerably smaller when confined to a specific type of web sites, such as news or sports sites. But online data, given its hierarchical arrangement of database, has its advantages when used with any targeted topic. Since information are filtered and categorized according to their field of interests, in standardized directories, any given topic of interest is related to its respective categories. Therefore, for any given requested and retrieved online topical information, there are in result the respective categories as well that is easily accessible.

Another aspect of a common user interface relies on the capability to move from one location to another location, with the utilization of mobile devices. Therefore, any given topic on demand at anywhere can fully utilize the available functions

present at a given time. That is, with the use of topic memorization, any topic on request can participate with multimedia utilization for any given media or utility devices. For example, a topic can translates to a content rich video presentation on a television display, while the same topic on the interface memory can bring about processing analysis capacity on a computer. The use of memory storage of any given topic selected can bring better utilization of any available functioning of existing devices. The common user interface, with the topic request in memory, can invoke greater efficiency of available devices in that their respective functions can act together in a remote network stem from a common interface.

Drawings

Brief descriptions of the drawings:

Figure 1 shows an embodiment of a uniform user interface that utilizes three functions, the directory, topic, and memory.

Detailed descriptions:

Figure 1 illustrates the common interface that can be fully integrated by most media and utility devices with three main functional fields. The focus is the topic itself, with requests that can be initiated anywhere and specifically formatted online data available in different media and scope of coverage relative to the particular device available. There's the directory, which identifies the general field of the selected topic and provides a simple path for wide range of related topics. Also, there's the memory, which serves as a backup function for the topic request. It can also be utilized as personalization tool. An aspect of the memory function is to bring topical request to different locations and different available devices, thereby integrating online data and information request with various types of media and utilities and their respective functions.